GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
REDEFINE THE TERM VILLAGE ELECTRIFICATION
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to redefine the term `village electrification` to provide for wider coverage of village households;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the target of village electrification has been achieved during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to cover the electrification of the entire village?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 167 TO BE ANSWERED IN TH LOK SABHA ON 31.07.2003 REGARDING REDEFINE THE TERM `VILLAGE ELECTRIFICATION`

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b): The salient features of the new proposed definition are as under:

(i) the basic infrastructure such as distribution transformer and or distribution lines is made available in the inhabited locality within the revenue boundary of the village including at least one hamlet/Dalit Basti as applicable;

(ii) any of the public places like Schools, Panchayat Office,Health Centers, Dispensaries, Community centers etc. avail power supply on demand;

(iii) the ratings of distribution transformer and LT lines to be provided in the village would be finalized as per the anticipated number of connections decided in consultation with the Panchayat/Zila Parishad/DistrictAdministration who will also issue the necessary certificate of village electrification on completion of the works; and

(iv) the number of households electrified should be minimum 10% for villages which are un-electrified, before the village is declared electrified.

This revision of definition would be prospective.

(c) & (d) : Targets and achievements of village electrification during the last three years are given below:

Year	Target	Achievement
2000-01	2600	1218
2001-02	13776	1458
2002-03	10,000	6005

(e) : To electrify the entire village, Government has taken the following steps:

(i) In Chief Ministers` Conference in 2001, it was resolved to electrify all villages by 2007.

(ii) From the year 2001-02, Rural Electrification including electrification ofdalit bastis and hamlets has been treated as Basic Minimum Service and hasbeen included under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). Underthis programme funds are released for all the six components including rural electrification. During the year 2002-03, Rs. 363 crores was released under PMGY for rural electrification. In 2003-04, a budgetary provision of Rs.2767 crores has been kept under PMGY for all the six components including rural electrification. The States have to make the inter-se allocation depending upon their priorities.

(iii) Under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), Rs. 600 crores have beenreleased to the States during 2002-03 as compared to release of Rs.175 crores in the year 2001-02. Again during 2003-04 a budgetary provision of Rs.600 crores has been kept under MNP.

(iv) Under Kutir Jyoti Programme Government provides funds to the States as100% grant. During the year 2002-03, Rs.98.79 crores has been released. In 2003-04, a budgetary provision of Rs.100 crores has been provided.

(v) Govt. have approved grant of interest subsidy of Rs.563.87 crores under Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (AREP) during the 10th Plan period for electrification of unelectrified villages, dalit bastis, hamlets and tribal villages, out of which an amount of Rs.163.87 crores was provided in the budget of 2002-03. Of these, Rs.157.87 crores has been utilized. For the year 2003-04 a budget provision of Rs. 100 crore has been provided.

(vi) REC has also offered very low rate of interest for village electrification,electrification of hamlets and dalit bastis including household services. REC has earmarked Rs. 500 crores every year for village electrification for the next four years.

(vii) Under the Electricity Act, 2003 decentralized generation and distribution ofelectricity (Stand alone system) in rural area has been exempted from licensing.

(viii) The Electricity Act, 2003 also provides for electricity distribution in ruralarea by local authorities, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Users` associations, Co-operative societies, non-governmental organizations or franchisees.

(ix) REST Mission has been launched by the Government of India to provideaccess to electricity to rural areas based on use of various technology options.